



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

DAVID W. LYNCH
CHAMBLISS, BAHNER & STOPHEL
1000 TALLAN SQUARE-S
TWO UNION SQUARE
CHATTANOOGA TN 37402

COPY MAILED

APR 12 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Bian Dennis McKean et al. :
Application No. 10/084,214 :
Filed: February 25, 2002 :
Attorney Docket No. SJO920010056US1 :
(0549)

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed November 21, 2006 to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed April 06, 2006, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on October 07, 2006.


The petition satisfies the conditions for revival pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that (1) the reply in the form of an amendment, a Request for Continued Examination, and the \$790 filing fee; (2) the petition fee of \$1,500; and (3) the required statement of unintentional delay have been received. Accordingly, the reply to the final Office Action of April 06, 2006 is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until

the filing of a grantable petition pursuant of 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Jean F. Duverne at (571) 272-6051 or in his absence, the undersigned at (571) 272-7099.

The application file is being referred to Technology Center AU 2195 for appropriate action on the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination and amendment.



David Bucci
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions